

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

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Week Ending 1/17/49

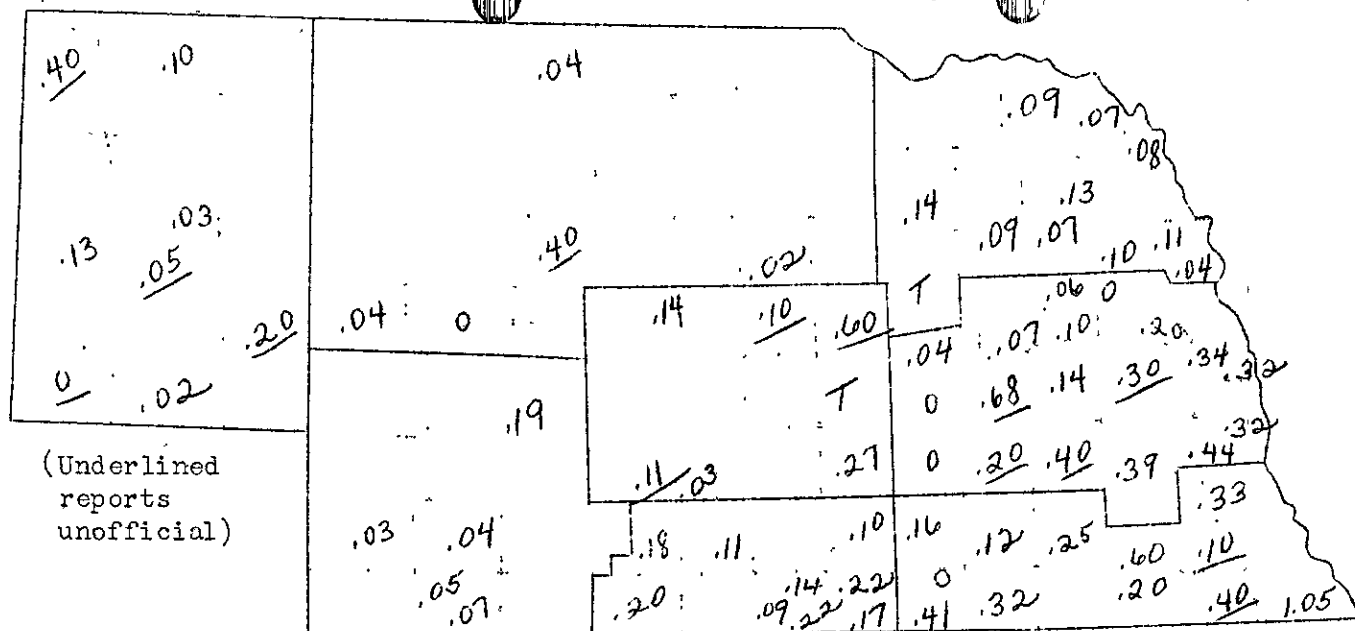
WEATHER Light to moderate snow fell over the eastern and south-central portions of the State, but there was only light local precipitation elsewhere. Cold weather prevailed, except for two rather mild days. There was considerable wind Saturday night and Sunday.

CROPS Many of the reports state that snow blew off the wheat fields badly in western Nebraska. Reports from eastern Nebraska are that most of the recent moisture from rain and snow was absorbed by the soil because it was unfrozen under the snow. This should be of great help to the wheat in the eastern third of the State. Corn husking is virtually at a standstill because of the unfavorable weather, snow, or wet fields. Hay prices are up substantially in the deficit areas and other areas where transportation has been impossible because of blocked roads.

LIVESTOCK Most of the reports indicate that livestock losses from the storm were not as large as expected; however, some counties report considerable loss and especially in the case of individuals some losses were very severe. Not all of the cattle that drifted with the storm has been located, yet, and ranchers are still finding dead cattle. Some local hay shortages are beginning to develop because of severe weather and snow covered range. Because of weakened condition resulting from storms and possible shortage of hay if the weather continues bad, there is considerable apprehension that the spring losses of cattle might be heavy.

KIMBALL COUNTY: "Many side roads will not be open for a long time. Many lost some livestock." MORRILL: "Farmers still digging out of the snow. Many country roads still blocked causing shortages. Some hay dropped by plane to isolated livestock. Airplane surveys were helpful to ranchers in locating lost livestock, but so far losses are relatively low." SCOTTS BLUFF: "Hay and concentrates ample but not always available where needed. Ranchers still digging out and finding dead cattle. Some weakened cattle still dying. Total loss will not be known until ranchers can locate all of their herds either dead or alive." SIOUX: "Report on livestock losses still incomplete, estimating 2% to 3% with some individuals reporting 25% to 75% loss. Feed supplies short. Highways not opened. Snow drifts 15 to 20 feet. Some cattle dying from pneumonia." BOYD: "Bulldozers working night and day opening roads so farmers can get feed for livestock. Roughage short. Some hay trucked from Elkhorn Valley at \$28 to \$32 a ton. Few stock losses reported, but more may follow because of shortage and high price of feed." BURWELL: "Many ranchers turned cattle to the hay stacks. Many cattle lost weight. A few losses reported and more expected." THOMAS: "Livestock losses below expectations. Some ranchers lost none, while others as many as a third of their livestock. Still haven't found all that had drifted away." BURT: "Farmers losing money on short-feds purchased last fall. Increased production of hogs and milk expected." CUMING: "More January farrowing than usual. No livestock loss. Prairie hay \$1.15 per bale, alfalfa \$1.33, oats straw \$.84 per bale at farm sale. Most cattle going to market are losing money." DAKOTA: "Because of snow, corn stalks not pastured. Hay supply becoming short." KNOX: "No. 1 prairie hay delivered to farm at \$35.00 per ton. Supply limited because of road condition." PIERCE: "Movement of feed and roughage is a big problem. Blocked roads preventing movement of livestock that is ready for market." GREELEY: "Some cattle turned into unpicked corn fields because of difficulty of getting hay. Some cattle feeders shipping unfinished cattle to market. No serious loss of livestock." VALLEY: "Side roads still blocked. No appreciable death loss but considerable shrinkage." MERRICK: "Many poor stands of wheat because of dry fall wheat seeding." SEWARD: "Pastures covered with snow. Farmers finishing hay from bale or stack making a heavy drain on the reserves. Livestock losses low with few pneumonia cases. Several cattle lost from bloat on third cutting of alfalfa hay." CHASE: "Country roads still blocked. Livestock death losses estimated at \$20,000. Stacks and shocks of forage snowed under. Feed supplies are scarce. Poultry production cut 35% because of weather conditions." DUNDY: "Livestock losses light." HITCHCOCK: "Most country roads open. Farmers laying in good supply of feed." FRANKLIN: "Feed for livestock becoming problem. Good prairie hay sales from \$20 to \$25 per ton and alfalfa \$30 per ton. Side roads still blocked." GOSPER: "Most farmers have sufficient hay for fodder but others unable to get it due to storm." KEARNEY: "Hay supply ample. No loss of livestock." WEBSTER: "Snow a week ago Sunday did not drift much, leaving 3 to 4 inches on the ground." FILLMORE: "Cattle in feed lots using forage intended for spring use. Egg, pork and dairy production on increase." GAGE: "Livestock weathered storms well, but feed consumption increased." NEMAH: "Moisture conditions and wheat very good. Some corn unhusked." PAWNEE: "Corn husking delayed. Wheat and rye benefited from moisture." THAYER: "Lots of hay used and some shortage expected. Few baby chicks started. Many roads still blocked."

PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING JANUARY 14, 1949



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (For 24 hours ending 6:30 a.m.)

		Jan.		11th		12th		13th		14th		15th		16th		17th	
				Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	-1	-5	11	-10	24	2	37	2	38	14	30	5	14	-16		
	Scottsbluff	--	-3	--	-5	19	-1	29	8	33	16	27	15	17	-9		
	Sidney	4	-2	11	-1	30	4	37	4	41	23	18	13	16	-12		
N-C	Burwell	2	0	14	2	33	3	39	8	33	21	40	3	5	-15		
	Valentine	-2	-5	15	--	32	17	38	11	35	26	33	3	12	-12		
NE	Norfolk	8	7	14	9	22	4	33	8	33	30	39	5	16	-9		
	Sioux City	13	11	16	12	26	10	38	10	38	30	43	7	20	-2		
Cen.	Grand Island	5	4	15	5	25	14	37	17	36	31	39	9	11	-3		
E-C	Lincoln	14	12	16	13	22	14	35	17	36	34	40	9	22	2		
	Omaha	15	14	19	15	24	12	39	16	37	33	40	13	26	2		
SW	Hayes Center	2	-1	12	--	28	15	43	19	34	23	--	10	--	-3		
	North Platte	1	-1	12	-3	26	8	35	9	35	14	34	10	17	-9		

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING JANUARY 17, 1949

Eastern Division		Central Division		Western Division	
Grand Island	.01	Burwell	0	Chadron	.08
Lincoln	.28	North Platte	.04	Hayes Center	.01
Norfolk	.04	Valentine	.02	Scottsbluff	.03
Omaha	.28			Sidney	.02
Sioux City	.01				

U. S. Department of Agriculture
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